

1st December 2020

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20202303

REQUEST

Request 1

1. Provide me a list of all the crimes recorded where the identified culprit is aged over 65 for 2017,2018,2019 calendar years, with an annual breakdown.
2. The number of such crimes (broken down by year) that resulted in a charge over the same years, with a similar breakdown.
3. Could you please make sure to break down the offences into specific crimes (using the Home Office's Crime classifications- name and code- rather than your own).

Request 2

4. Provide me a list of all the crimes recorded where the identified culprit is under the age of 18 for 2017,2018,2019 calendar years, with an annual breakdown.
5. The number of such crimes (broken down by year) that resulted in a charge over the same years, with a similar breakdown.
6. Could you please make sure to break down the offences into specific crimes (using the Home Office's Crime classifications- name and code- rather than your own).

Request 3

7. Provide me a list of all the crimes recorded where the identified victim is under the age of 18 for 2017,2018,2019 calendar years, with an annual breakdown.
8. The number of such crimes (broken down by year) that resulted in a charge over the same years, with a similar breakdown.
9. Could you please make sure to break down the offences into specific crimes (using the Home Office's Crime classifications- name and code- rather than your own).

Request 4

10. Provide me a list of all the crimes recorded where the identified victim is over the age of 65 for 2017,2018,2019 calendar years, with an annual breakdown.
11. The number of such crimes (broken down by year) that resulted in a charge over the same years, with a similar breakdown.
12. Could you please make sure to break down the offences into specific crimes (using the Home Office's Crime classifications- name and code- rather than your own).

RESPONSE

In line with legislation the above four Freedom of Information requests have been received within 60 consecutive working days with an overarching theme in terms of the nature of the information requested from the same email address and requester . As such, they have been aggregated in accordance with the conditions laid out in the Fees Regulations.

Point 39 on following link

https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf

RESPONSE

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Administrator for assistance with your request. The CMS system and Connect System is used to record complaints or allegations

of those matters, which the Home Office specify should be recorded as 'crimes'. (CMS - our legacy system which provides data up to 4th December 2017 and our new CONNECT system which records crimes from that date onwards)

Unfortunately given the current situation the Administrator is not currently working in police premises and cannot access the software needed to extract data from CMS (legacy system) we will provide this as soon as we are able to do so. Her explanation is as follows:

CMS(ii) –

Given the present situation, I am currently working from home and cannot access the software needed to extract data from CMS(ii), I will therefore provide data for 01-Jan-2017 and 04-Dec-2017 at a later date.

In respect of Connect data from December 2017 to date.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies to the disclosure of the information:

Section 12 – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

Connect Data breakdown by Offender – part of this request is based on Offender details. While we hold this data and stats by Offence, to retrieve a further breakdown by Offender detail of i.e. Offenders outcomes and ages, would require a manual search of each record to check the data is inputted and then extract the exact detail pertinent to your request. This further breakdown will in essence require a review and manual check of each relevant record and the process would take much longer than the 18 hours allowed by the FOI Act.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 provide that the cost limit for non-central government public authorities is £450. This must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour, providing an effective time limit of 18 hours.

Guidance from the Information Commissioner to public authorities is that where one part of a request is reasonably estimated to exceed the appropriate limit then the authority is not obliged to consider or comply with the remainder of the request up to the point at which the appropriate limit has been reached. Please note point 30 of the below link:-

https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf

Although excess cost removes the force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request neither does it bind South Yorkshire Police to any commitment that it will release information in such a manner in the future .

Please see the attached data and the below explanation.

I have provided a count of offences for each request where a suspect or victim is recorded with the age specified, as opposed to a count of victims and suspects. However, this may not be accurate reflection of what is potentially recorded for CONNECT Crime. This dataset is reliant upon the age at incident being correctly recorded

Please note -

- We would not expect a count of suspects and victims to reflect a count of offences as some offences maybe recorded with more than one victim or suspect.*
- I have stated the number of offences where there are potential issues with the ages of both suspect and victims. Without reviewing these offences at record level we cannot state whether these are correctly included in the dataset.*
- With regards to the offence outcome for requests 1 & 2, we cannot state if the offence outcome relates to the suspect with the said age as some offences may be recorded with more than one suspect, again this would mean a review of the offences at record level.*
- If an victim or suspects age is unknown at the time of recording the offence, then the Date of Birth 01/01/1900 may be recorded, this will result in the victim's being recorded as 119 or 120. These records will be amended accordingly when the correct Date of Birth is known but until the correct age is known and recorded, these will be included in such requests where ages are specified.*
- Where potential anomalies have been identified (Ages over 100 & minus figures), then these offences have been referred to relevant department for review.*

Request 1 – I have provided a count of offences where a suspect is recorded on the offence with an age of 65 or over, where the offence is recorded for CONNECT Crime between 04-Dec-2017 and 31-Oct-2020. Of the count of offences, I have provided a breakdown of the offence outcome. Please note – 205 offences are recorded with a suspect over the age of 100.

Request 2 - I have provided a count of offences where a suspect is recorded on the offence where a suspect is under the age of 18, where the offence is recorded for CONNECT Crime between 04-Dec-2017 and 31-Oct-2020. Of the count of offences, I have provided a breakdown of the offence outcome. Please note – 27 offences are recorded where the suspect has a minus age.

Request 3 - I have provided a count of offences where a victim is under the age of 18, where the offence is recorded for CONNECT Crime between 04-Dec-2017 and 31-Oct-2020. Of the count of offences, I have provided a breakdown of the offence outcome. Please note – 28 offences are recorded where the victim has a minus age.

Request 4 - I have provided a count of offences where a victim is over the age of 65, where the offence is recorded for CONNECT Crime between 04-Dec-2017 and 31-Oct-2020. Of the count of offences, I have provided a breakdown of the offence outcome. Please note – 258 offences are recorded with a victim over the age 100.

Home Office offence class 8U Controlling or Coercive behaviour was introduced April 2020, therefore no data is available prior to this date.